



BATMAN®

HARLEY QUINN



Paul Dini ♦ Yvel Guichet ♦ Aaron Sowd

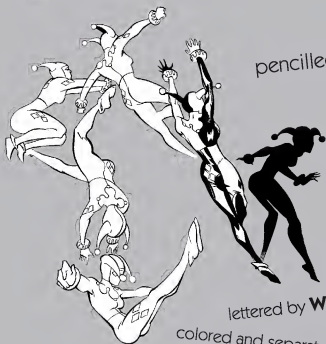


BATMAN HARLEY QUINN

written by **PAUL DINI**

pencilled by **YVEL GUICHET**

inked by **AARON SOWD**



lettered by **WILLIE SCHUBERT**

colored and separated by **RICHARD** and **TANYA HORIE**

Batman created by **BOB KANE**

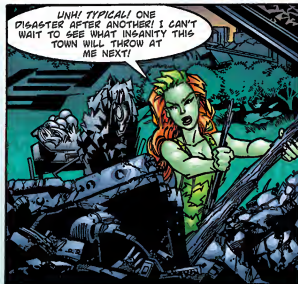


Cover illustration by Alex Ross.
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WHOA,
MARIGOLD!

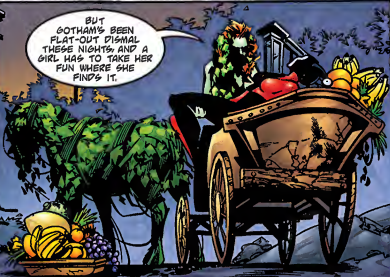
IT'S BAD
ENOUGH BATMAN
FORCES ME TO DELIVER
PRODUCE TO GOTHAM'S
STARVING HORDES, NOW
APPARENTLY I'LL HAVE
TO PLAY TRASH
COLLECTOR TO
DO IT!







WHAT DO YOU THINK, GIRL? SHE'S IN PRETTY ROTTEN SHAPE. NO LEAVES OFF MY BUSH IF SHE LIVES OR DIES.



BUT GOTHAM'S BEEN FLAT-OUT DISMAL THESE NIGHTS, AND A GIRL HAS TO TAKE HER FUN WHERE SHE FINDS IT.



HOME, MARIGOLD!



NO, PUDDIN', DON'T-- NOOO!

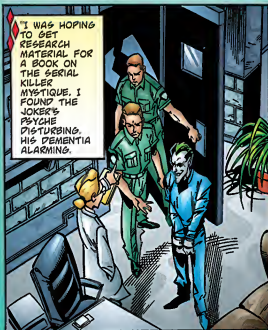
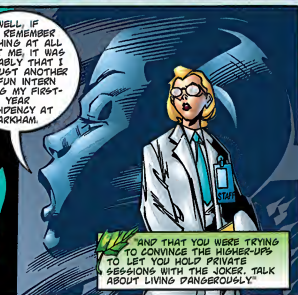
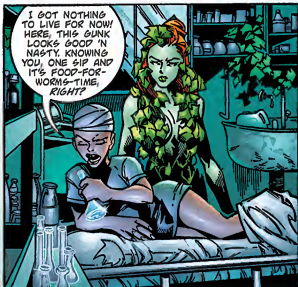


GOOD MORNING, DOCTOR QUINZEL.

I KNOW YOU! POISON IVY!



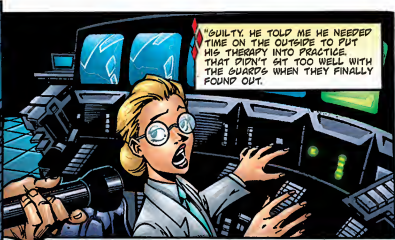
THAT'S RIGHT. I THOUGHT I RECOGNIZED YOU UNDER THAT SILLY COSTUME. YOU WERE ONE OF THE HOTSHOT YOUNG DOCTORS FROM ARKHAM ASYLUM.





"MAYBE YOU'VE WONDERED HOW IT WAS POSSIBLE THE JOKER WAS ALWAYS ESCAPING SO EASILY."

"I HAVE A PRETTY GOOD IDEA."



"GUILTY. HE TOLD ME HE NEEDED TIME ON THE OUTSIDE TO PUT HIS THERAPY INTO PRACTICE THAT DIDN'T SIT TOO WELL WITH THE GUARDS WHEN THEY FINALLY FOUND OUT."



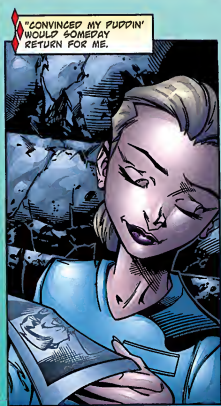
"DOCTOR ARKHAM WAS FURIOUS, OF COURSE. HE HAD MY DOCTOR'S LICENSE REVOKED AND COMMITTED ME ON THE SPOT."



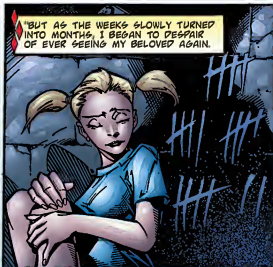
"MY LOVE FOR MY JOKER WAS STRONGER THAN THEIR MADHOUSE WALLS."



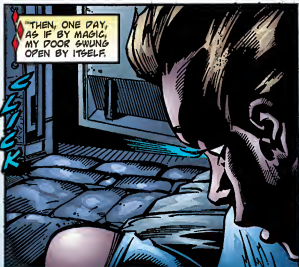
"LOCKED AWAY IN THE SOLITARY WING DEEP IN THE BOWELS OF ARKHAM, I REMAINED EVER-CHEERFUL..."



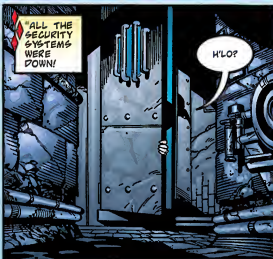
"CONVINCED MY PUDDIN' WOULD SOMEDAY RETURN FOR ME."



"BUT AS THE WEEKS SLOWLY TURNED INTO MONTHS, I BEGAN TO DESPAIR OF EVER SEEING MY BELOVED AGAIN."



"THEN, ONE DAY, AS IF BY MAGIC, MY DOOR SWUNG OPEN BY ITSELF."



"ALL THE SECURITY SYSTEMS WERE DOWN!"

H'LO?

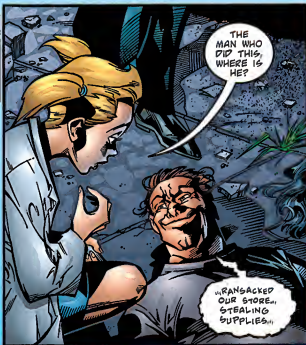
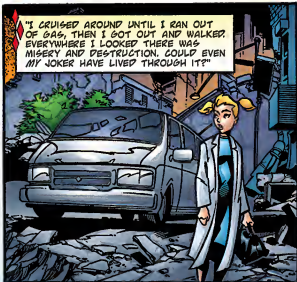


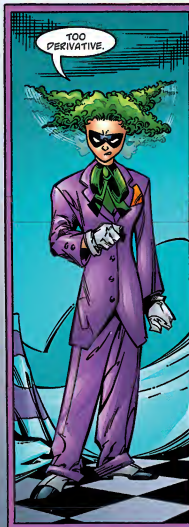
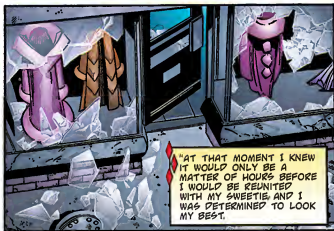
"THE POWER WAS OFF ALL THROUGH THE ASYLUM. IT WAS AS IF A BOMB HAD HIT THE PLACE!"

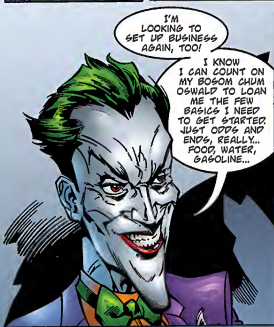
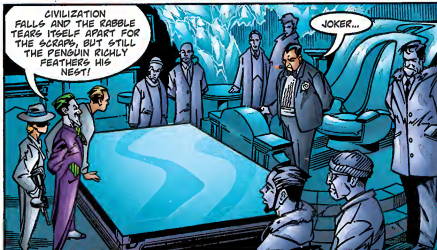


"OR AN EARTHQUAKE?"

"YEAH, HOW 'BOUT THAT? THE LITTLE THINGS YA MISS WHEN YOU'RE IN THE HOLE."









I BELIEVE, OLD FRIEND, THE IMMORTAL BARD SAID IT BEST: "NEITHER A BORROWER NOR A LENDER BE." THESE DAYS I'M RUNNING A STRICTLY BARTER OPERATION.



I'M SURE YOU'LL ADVANCE ME CREDIT, RIGHT, MA BROTHA?

THE RULES OF COMMERCE HAVE CHANGED SINCE THE QUAKE, PALLY.



I CAN'T AFFORD CHARITY, NOR CAN I WASTE TIME ON BEGGARS WITH NOTHING TO TRADE.



WHY, PENSERS, IF IT'S A TRADE YOU WANT, THE BOYS AND I WILL BE HAPPY TO EXCHANGE OUR LEAD FOR YOUR GOLD!



ALL I WANTED WAS A LEG UP IN REESTABLISHING MYSELF. BUT IF YOU'RE GOING TO BE PIGGY...

A-HEM! SPEAKIN' OF LEGS...



CHECK OUT THESE GAMS, PUDDIN'!

THE VOICE IS FAMILIAR...



...BUT I CAN'T PLACE THE FACE!

NOW HOLD YOUR HORSES, PENGY!



YOU JUST CAN'T START A FIRST-CLASS GANG WAR WITH YOUR JACKET ALL DIRTY LIKE THAT!

WHA...?



HA! MADE YA LOOK!

UNNGH!



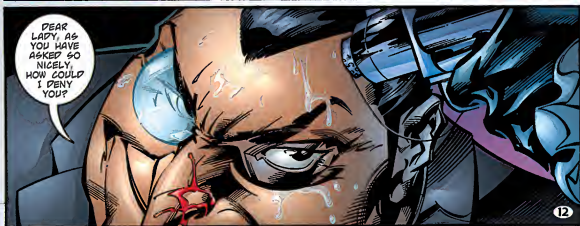
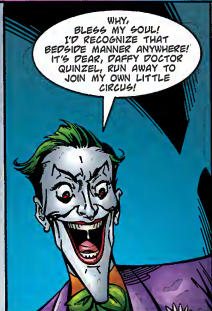
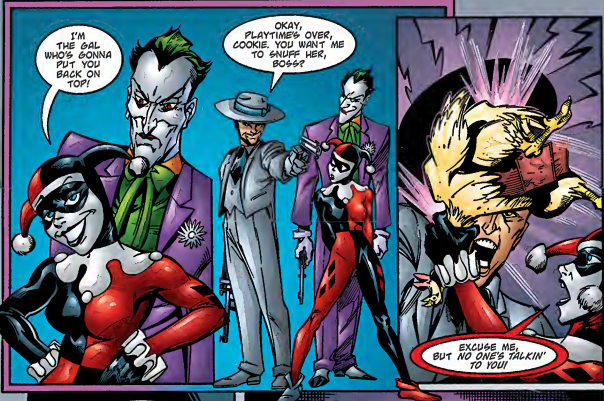
OLDEST TRICK IN THE BOOK, BOYS!



A MOST TIMELY DIVERSION, MY MYSTERIOUS MOUNTBANK.

I HAVE THE STRANGEST FEELING WE'VE MET BEFORE.

COURSE WE HAVE, PUDDIN'!





THANKS FOR SEEING THINGS OUR WAY, PENGY. I'LL NEVER FORGET IT.

NEITHER WILL I, COUNT ON IT.



YOU DONE GOOD, SWEETS. AS A REWARD, I'M LETTING YOU DRIVE.

MY PLEASURE, MISTER J. POINT THE WAY TO YOUR HIDE-OUT.

SORRY, KEEB.



WITH GOTHAM SO TOPSY-TURVY OF LATE, I HAVEN'T EVEN HAD TIME TO LOOK FOR A NEW PLACE.

ONCE THINGS SETTLE DOWN, SO WILL WE.



"TIL THEN, WE'LL HAVE TO STAY MOBILE.

HMMM...



I KNEW THE SOONER MISTER J. WAS IN A NEW HIDEOUT, THE MORE TIME HE'D HAVE TO SPEND WITH ME. SO THE VERY NEXT DAY I WENT HOUSE-HUNTING.

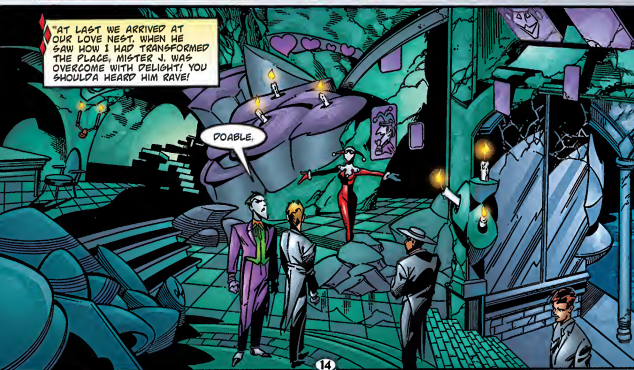
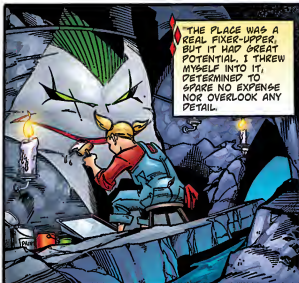
"THE TUNNEL OF LOVE AT THE OLD DOCKSIDE AMUSEMENT PARK SEEMED PERFECT."



"OF COURSE, THE CURRENT TENANTS HAD TO GO."

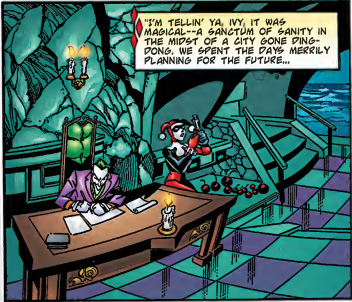


"ALL THINGS CONSIDERED, THEY TOOK THEIR EVICTION VERY WELL."

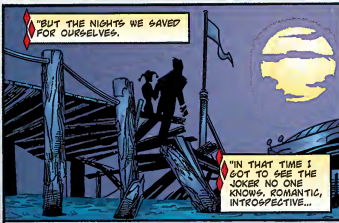




"I WHIPPED UP SOME-
THING NICE FOR THE
BOYS, TOO.



"I'M TELLIN' YA, IVY, IT WAS
MAGICAL--A SANCTUM OF SANITY IN
THE MIDST OF A CITY GONE DING-
DONG. WE SPENT THE DAYS MERRILY
PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE...



"BUT THE NIGHTS WE SAVED
FOR OURSELVES.

"IN THAT TIME I
GOT TO SEE THE
JOKER NO ONE
KNOWS. ROMANTIC,
INTROSPECTIVE...



"...AND WHILE OUR
COURTSHIP WAS SOMETIMES
HAMPERED BY GOTHAM'S
TECHNOLOGICAL GLITCHES...



POOM



"...MISTER J'S
SUNNY GOOD
HUMOR ALWAYS
BRIGHTENED UP
THE GLOOM.

THEN JUST YESTERDAY
CAME THE TURNING POINT
IN OUR RELATIONSHIP. WE
WERE IN THIS STANDOFF
DOWN AT THE HARBOR.
SOME BIG MOOK HAD
TAKEN THE WHOLE AREA
FOR HIMSELF, AND
MISTER J. WANTED IN."

ERNIE,
ERNIE! BE
REASON-
ABLE!

YOU
AIN'T TAKIN'
MY TERRITORY,
CLOWN!

YOU GOT
ME ALL WRONG, BUDDY-
BOY! I WANT YOU ON
MY SIDE!

"WHAT A
NEGOTIATOR!"

THINK
OF THE
FUN WE COULD
HAVE IF WE
TEAMED UP!

I'D CUT YOU
IN AS A FULL PARTNER,
MY UP-FRONT MAN ON THE
DOCKS. WHADDAYA
SAY?

I'M
THINKIN'...

WHAT
THE HELL.
IF I'M GOING
TO THROW IN
WITH SOMEONE,
IT MIGHT AS
WELL BE THE
BEST. UH,
NO TRICKS,
RIGHT?

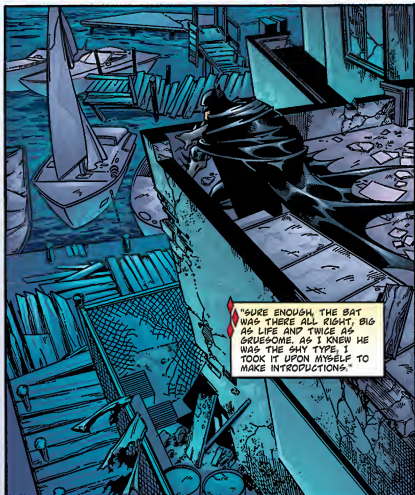
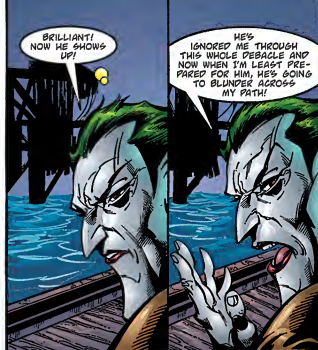
ERNIE,
I WELCOME
YOU WITH THE
RIGHT HAND
OF FRIEND-
SHIP!

AWW! BUT THE
BUZZER WAS IN THE
LEFT HAND OF DECEIT.
GOTTA WATCH
THAT.

NOW ERNIE,
AS MY MAN ON
THE DOCKS, IT'LL
BE YOUR JOB TO LET
EVERYONE KNOW THIS
IS JOKER COUNTRY!
THINK YOU CAN
HANDLE IT?
THAT'S MY
BOY!

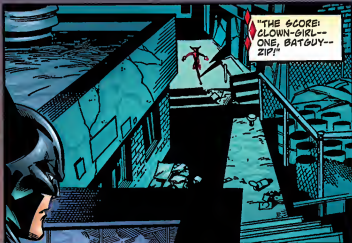
IT'S BATMAN! I
SPOTTED HIM ON A
WAREHOUSE AT THE
END OF THIS
ALLEY!

BOSS! WE
GOT TROUBLE!









"THE SCORE:
CLOWN-GIRL--
ONE, BATGUY--
ZIP!"

REMIND ME TO
SEND HARLEY SOME FLOWERS
ONCE BATMAN'S DONE USING
HER FOR A PUNCHING
BAG.

WE'RE
LEAVING
HER?

WHY NO,
ROLLO. WE'RE
GOING TO SCRAP OUR
CAREFULLY-LAID PLANS
AND GO DUKE IT OUT
WITH THE BAT ALL
FOR THE SAKE
OF ONE SILLY
LITTLE...



MISS ME,
PUDDIN'?

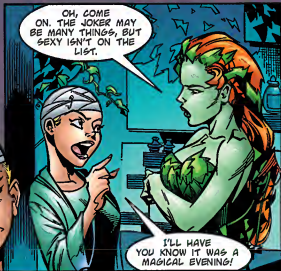
PUNKIN'
PIE! WE WERE
JUST GOING TO
LOOK FOR
YOU!



"I WAS A
HAPPY, HAPPY
GIRL."

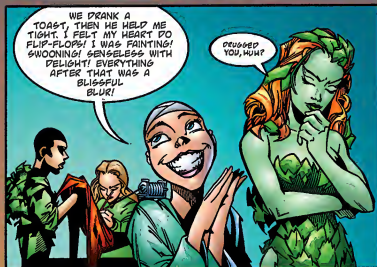


THEN WE WENT BACK TO THE HIDEOUT FOR A NIGHT OF SHEER JOY.



OH, COME ON. THE JOKER MAY BE MANY THINGS, BUT SEXY ISN'T ON THE LIST.

I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW IT WAS A MAGICAL EVENING!



WE DRANK A TOAST, THEN HE HELD ME TIGHT. I FELT MY HEART DO FLIP-FLOPS! I WAS FAINTING! SWOONING! SENSELESS WITH DELIGHT! EVERYTHING AFTER THAT WAS A BLISSFUL BLUR!

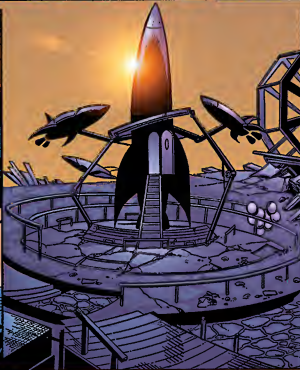
DRUGGED YOU, HUH?



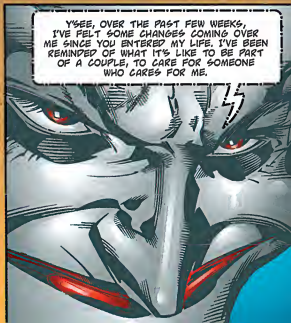
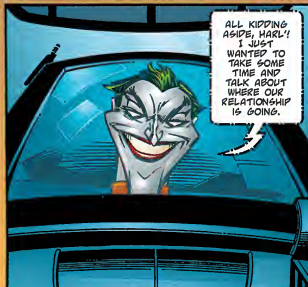
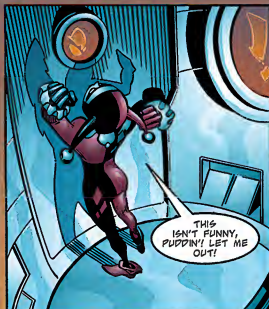
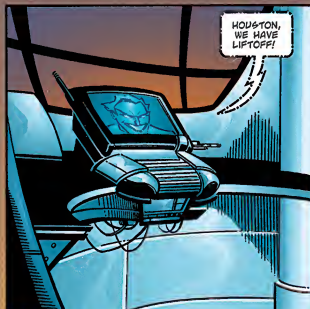
"THIS MORNING I WOKE UP ALL AGLOW. STRANGELY, MISTER J. WAS NOWHERE TO BE FOUND."



"ON HIS PILLOW WAS A NOTE INSTRUCTING ME TO MEET HIM AT THE PARK'S OLD ROCKET RIDE."



PUDDIN'? YOO-HOO... WHERE ARE YOU?



IT'S THE FIRST TIME
IN RECENT MEMORY I'VE HAD
THOSE FEELINGS...



AHH,
PUDDIN'!

...AND I HATE
HAVING THOSE
FEELINGS! THEY'RE
UPSETTING, CON-
FUSING AND WORSE,
DISTRACTING ME
FROM GETTING MY
SHARE OF GOTHAM
NOW THAT THE
GETTING'S GOOD!



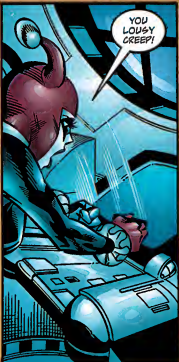
SNIFF!
I WILL ALWAYS
TREASURE OUR DAYS
TOGETHER, BUT SADLY,
INEVITABLY, THE TIME
HAS COME FOR US
TO PART.



FAREWELL,
MY SWEET
HARLEY
QUINN.
I WILL
MOURN
YOU.



YOU
LOUSY
CREEP!

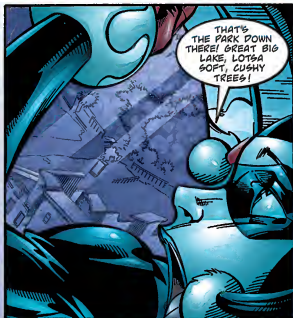


SLIMY,
PASTY-
FACED
RAT!



I'LL RIP
YOUR LUNGS OUT,
YOU LYING SACK
OF...







...AND YOU KNOW THE REST. WHAT CAN I TELL YA, RED? I WAS THE CLASSIC CHUMP, FALLIN' FOR THE WORST GUY IN THE WORLD.

SOUNDS LIKE YOU'D LIKE TO GET EVEN.



YOU GOT THAT RIGHT! I GOT SCORES TO SETTLE WITH THE JOKER, BATMAN, AND EVERYONE ELSE WHO'S BEEN RAMMIN' GRIEF DOWN MY THROAT!



DRINK.

Ullkk!

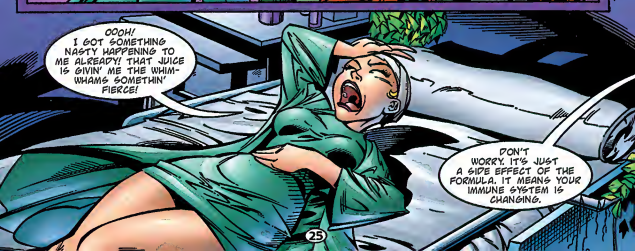


Glaah! THAT WAS RANK! WHAT'D YOU DO THAT FOR?!

A NECESSARY PRECAUTION IF WE'RE GOING TO HANG OUT TOGETHER.

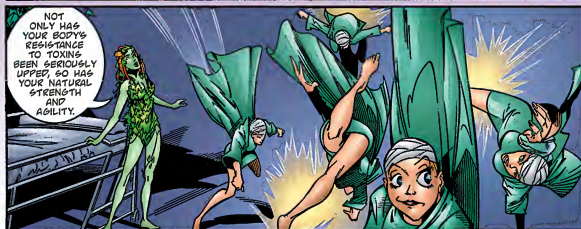


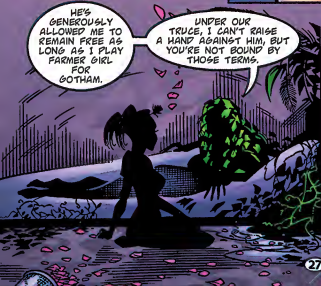
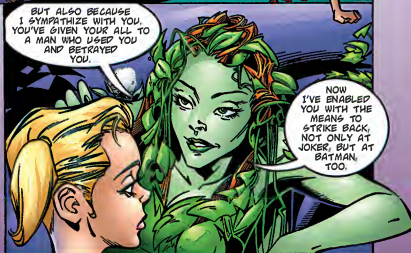
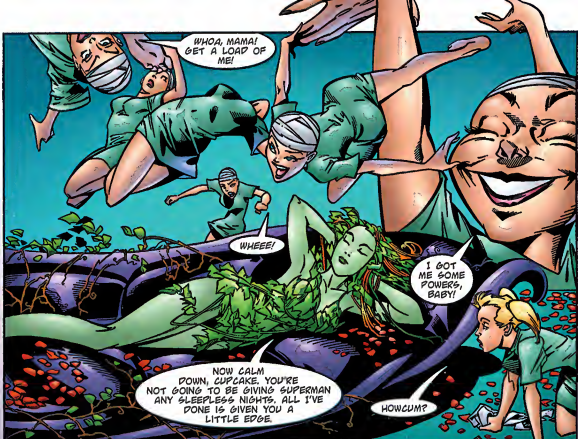
I'M NOT CALLED POISON IVY FOR NOTHING. ANYONE WHO SPENDS A LOT OF TIME AROUND ME WILL PICK UP SOMETHING NASTY IF THEY'RE NOT PROPERLY IMMUNIZED.

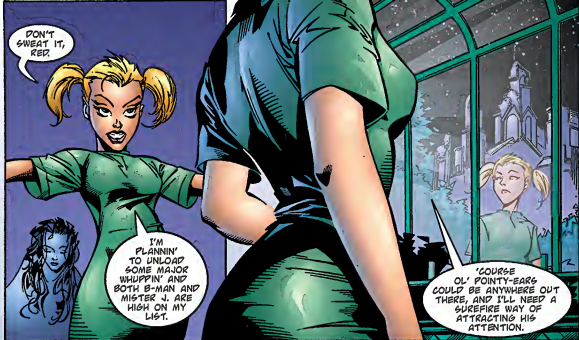


OOOH! I GOT SOMETHING NASTY HAPPENING TO ME ALREADY! THAT JUICE IS GIVIN' ME THE WHIM-WHAMS SOMETHIN' FIERCE!

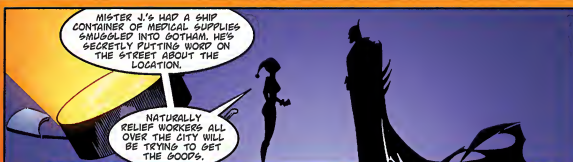
DON'T WORRY IT'S JUST A SIDE EFFECT OF THE FORMULA. IT MEANS YOUR IMMUNE SYSTEM IS CHANGING.












MISTER J.'S HAD A SHIP
CONTAINER OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES
SHUGGLED INTO GOTHAM. HE'S
SECRETLY PUTTING WORD ON
THE STREET ABOUT THE
LOCATION.


NATURALLY
RELIEF WORKERS ALL
OVER THE CITY WILL
BE TRYING TO GET
THE GOODS.



MISTER J.'S
GONNA WAIT UNTIL
THEY START DISPENSING
THE STUFF TO THE NEEDY,
THEN, BOOM! HE'LL BLOW
THE WHOLE THING VIA
REMOTE FROM HIS
HIDEOUT.



JUST A
LITTLE GIGGLE
TO REMIND PEOPLE
HE'S STILL
ALIVE.



I'D BE INSANE TO TRUST YOU,
SO I'M NOT GOING TO ACCOMPANY
YOU ANYPLACE.



TAKE
THIS.

THAT WILL TELL ME WHERE
YOU ARE AND I CAN FOLLOW AT MY
OWN DISCRETION.



IF
YOUR STORY
CHECKS OUT,
I'LL TAKE CARE
OF THE JOKER,
BUT YOU'RE
NOT TO
INTERFERE.



Y'KNOW, BATS, I DIDN'T SLEEP MY WAY THROUGH MED SCHOOL WITHOUT LEARNIN' A FEW THINGS, AND I SUSPECT YOU'VE GOT SOME SERIOUS ISSUES WITH INTIMACY.



MAYBE WHEN THIS WHOLE BUSINESS IS OVER WE COULD SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT AND...

Heh.



"TAKE A LOAD OFF, BOYS. WITH CHAOS THE ORDER OF THE DAY IN GOTHAM, A WILD, IMPETUOUS CHAP SUCH AS MYSELF HAS BECOME ALMOST THE NORM."



TONIGHT WHAT SAY WE STAY IN, DOWN A FEW BREWSKIS AND HAVE A GOOD OL' FASHIONED BULL SESSION?

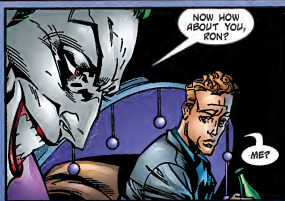
SURE, BOSS.

YOU THE MAN.

NOW TAKE WOMEN, AREN'T THEY THE ETERNAL MYSTERY?

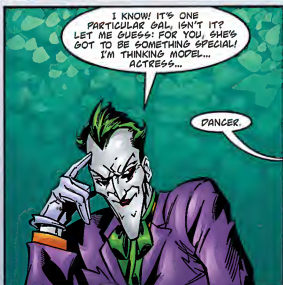


I'VE ALWAYS FANCIED MYSELF SOMEWHAT A LADIES' MAN, BUT I GUESS I'LL NEVER GET OVER THAT OLD COMMITMENT THING. HEH! MAINLY BECAUSE THE DOCTORS KEEP COMMITTING ME--
Ba-dum--dum!



NOW HOW ABOUT YOU, RON?

ME?







HERE'S
TO YA,
RON. POOR
SHMOE.



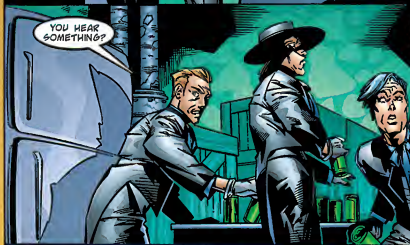
THE BOSS
IS EVEN SCARIER
WHEN HE'S ACTIN'
FRIENDLY.

AT
LEAST
WE GOT
BEER.



NO
WAY I COULD
TAKE THIS JOB
SOBER.

AMEN.



YOU HEAR
SOMETHING?



BOSS?
THAT
YOU?

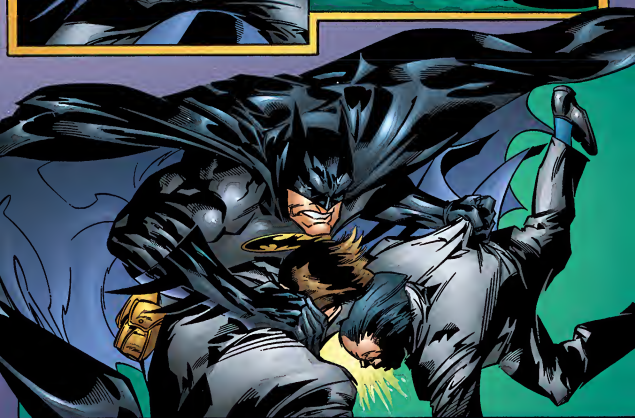
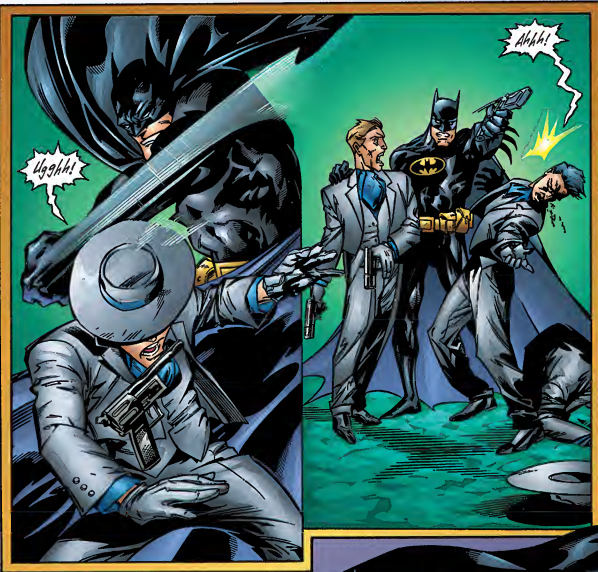


COME
ON OUT,
WHOEVER'S
BACK
THERE!

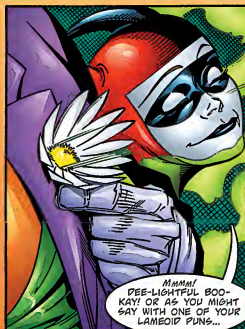
HEY...

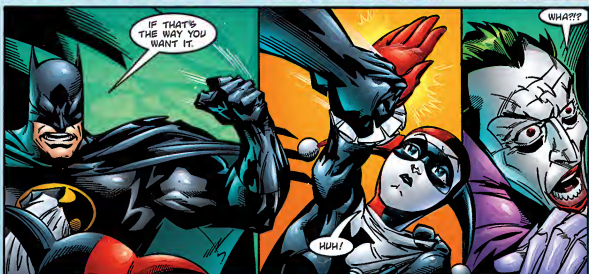


WHAT
THE HELL IS
THIS?









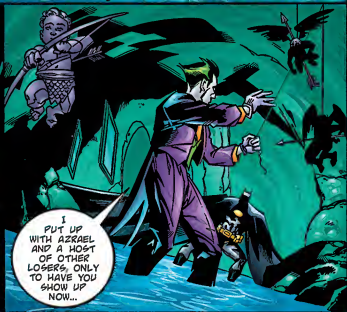


HARLEY,
ALIVE AND
TRADING PUNCHES
WITH BATMAN? THIS
IS GETTING TOO
SURREAL FOR ME!
I'M OUT OF
HERE!



JOKER!

THIS
IS NOT FAIR!
ALL THROUGH
THIS WHOLE
EARTHQUAKE
BUSINESS YOU'VE
BARELY SAID
"BOO" TO
ME!



I
PUT UP
WITH AZRAEL
AND A HOST
OF OTHER
LOSERS, ONLY
TO HAVE YOU
SHOW UP
NOW...

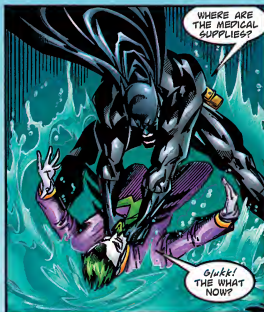


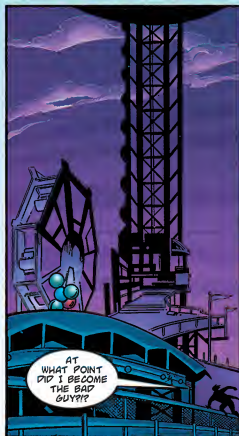
...ON THE
NIGHT MY CHICK
DECIDES TO
DUMP A LOAD OF
GUANO ON
MY HEAD.

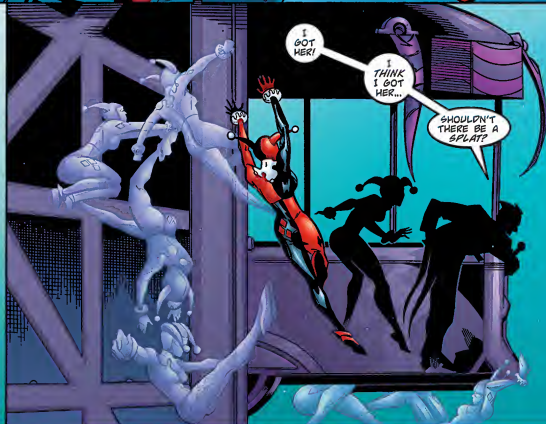


ugh! WHATEVER HAPPENED TO TRADITION?
A BIT OF DRAMA?

SHUT
UP.

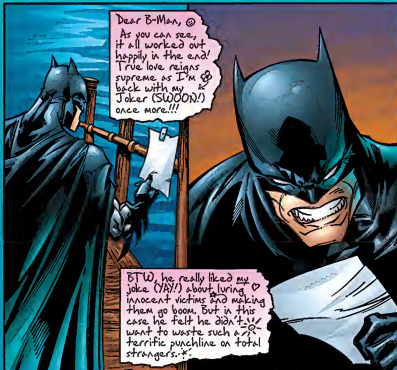
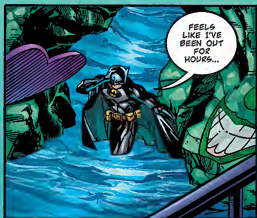














Well, that's all
from me. Have
to blow now.

See ya in the
funny papers.

Luv, ☺
Harley Qv




"A MINOR
CONCUSSION, A
LACERATED
SHOULDER,
POWDER BURNS,
NUMEROUS
BRUISES..."

ARKHAM
ASYLUM



...AMPLE
EVIDENCE
THAT THE
JOKER IS
INDEED BACK
AMONG
US.



WORSE THAN EVER, I DARE SAY,
NOW THAT HE HAS A PARTNER WHO
SHARES HIS SADISTIC SENSE
OF HUMOR.

AGREED

